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Session: 3

Stress-strain behaviour of compacted soils related to seismic earth-fill dam stability



SUMMARY-1

Several important features of the drained & saturated-undrained stress-strain properties of soil in monotonic & cyclic loadings related to the seismic stability of earth-fill dam

Practical simplified seismic stability analysis needs appropriate balance among the methods chosen in the following items:

1) Criterion to evaluate of the stability:

- Global safety factor relative to a specified required minimum vs. Residual deformation relative to a specified allowable largest.
- 2) Design seismic load at a given site:

Conventional design load vs. Likely largest load in the future

3) Stress – strain properties of soil:

Actual complicated behavior vs. Simplified model

- 4) Relevant consideration of the effects of other engineering factors:
 - compacted dry density; soil type; etc.



SUMMARY-2

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2) Design seismic load at a given site:

Conventional design load vs. Likely largest load in the future

- 3) Stress strain properties of soil: Main topic in this presentation Actual complicated behavior vs. Simplified model
- 4) Relevant consideration of the effects of other engineering factors:
 - compacted dry density; soil type; etc.



Stress – strain properties of soil:

(A) actual complicated behaviour vs. (B) simplified model





Stress – strain properties of soil:

(A) actual complicated behaviour vs. (B) simplified model

- (B) simplified model (explained in this presentation)
- a) Design strength corresponding to conservatively (but not excessively) determined compacted dry density
- b) Isotropic stress strain properties
- c) Strength by triaxial compression test at $\delta{=}~90^{\circ}$
- d) Strain-softening associated with shear banding with the thickness increasing D_{50} to account for the effects of compaction & particle size
- e) No progressive failure in the limit equilibrium-based stability analysis

<u>Good balance is required among</u> <u>simplifications a), b), c) and e)</u> d) is to encourage good compaction



Conservative determination of design soil shear strength under drained conditions- 1





Conservative determination of design soil shear strength under drained conditions- 2 $Drained TC at \sigma_{3}^{2} = 50 \text{ kPa}$





Conservative determination of design soil shear strength under drained conditions- 2 $Drained TC at \sigma'_{3} = 50 kPa$



The use of the design peak shear strength that is slightly lower than the value that corresponds to the target of D_c set equal to the anticipated average of actual values, together with the residual shear strength, is more realistic and can encourage better compaction (explained later)











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Drained PSC, saturated Toyoura sand

A similar trend among different poorly-graded sands collected from different countries, with and without a minimum at $\delta = 20^{\circ} - 30^{\circ}$, where the shear band direction coincides with the bedding plane direction.







A similar trend among different poorly-graded gravelly soils produced by vertical vibratory compaction







The TC strength (δ = 90°) is similar to, or smaller than, the average strength along a circular failure plane under plane strain conditions.









 $\phi_0 = \arcsin[(\sigma'_1 - \sigma'_3)/[(\sigma'_1 + \sigma'_3)]_{max}]$ values in the direct shear test and the TC test (δ = 90°) happen to be nearly the same due to cancelling out of the effects of anisotropy and $(\sigma'_2 - \sigma'_3)/(\sigma'_1 - \sigma'_3).$

 σ'





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 $\phi_{ss} = \arctan(\tau_{at}/\sigma'_{a})_{max}$ from the direct (in degree) shear test is significantly lower than ϕ_0 from TC test (δ = 90°). The use of ϕ_{ss} in the slope stability analysis is usually too conservative.

 σ'

 $\varepsilon_2 = 0$

Air-pluviated Toyoura sand



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> The stress is plotted against "strain averaged for the whole specimen", not representative of the strain in the shear band.

> > Hostun Sand

Ticino Sand

15

20

S.L.B. Sand

Monterey Sand

Óttawa Sand

10

5

Uniform granular materials





10

9

8

7

6

з.

0

0

က

0110

11

Stress ratio, R

Uniform granular materials







Large PSC test







Larger shear deformation of shear band for larger D_{50} why ?



 $(u_s^*)_{res}$ increases with shear band thickness, t_r , for a similar shear strain in the shear band

Strain-softening associated with shear banding under drained plane strain conditions- 5





Normalization as $u_s/(D_{50})^{0.66}$: still a noticeable scatter, but no systematic effects of U_c , σ_3 , density, strain rate, Useful to infer the $R_n - u_s$ relation for a given D_{50} to be used in the slip displacement analysis by the Newmark method.

On the other hand, the friction angle decreases with an increase in the particle size in drained TC keeping the D_{max}/specimen size constant! This trend is inconsistent with our intuition that the slope becomes more stable with an increase in the particle size.





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University of California, Berkeley (Marachi et al., 1969)



On the other hand, the friction angle decreases with an increase in the particle size in drained TC keeping the D_{max}/specimen size constant! This trend is inconsistent with our intuition that the slope becomes more stable with an increase in the particle size.

One method to alleviate this contradiction in the seismic design, at least partly, is the evaluation of slip displacement by the Newmark method taking into account the effects of D_{50} on the $R_n - u_s$ relation.





1. Effects of dry density:

- much larger than those on drained strength; and

- become more significant by effects of preceding cyclic undrained loading.

2. Degradation of the undrained stress-strain properties and strength in the course of cyclic undrained loading:

- more when more cyclically sheared undrained; and
- how to model this trend for numerical analysis ?
 Simplified model for simplified numerical analysis* vs.
 Full model for rigorous numerical analysis
 (* explained in this presentation)







1. Effects of dry density - 2



In drained tests, the peak strength is noticeably different with largely different volume changes for different dry densities (or different D_r values) !

1. Effects of dry density - 3



In undrained tests, the effective stress path is largely different with largely different peak strengths for different densities !

1. Effects of dry density - 4

Comparison among (A)drained strength in ML, (B) undrained strength in ML and (C) undrained CL strength of Toyoura sand





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1. Effects of dry density - 8





Undrained stress- strain behaviour of saturated soil to evaluate the residual displacement/deformation-1



Undrained stress- strain behaviour of saturated soil to evaluate the residual displacement/deformation - 2



0

residual slip displacement

+ Shear strain, γ

- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 1:





- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 2:

Typical example of cyclic undrained triaxial tests on isotropically consolidated specimens compacted to $(D_c)_{1Ec}$ = 85 %; 90 % and 95 %





- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 3:





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- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 4:





- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 5:



SR_i= $\tau_{cyc,i}/\sigma'_0$: cyclic stress ratio of **pulse i** $\tau_{cyc,i}$: shear stress amplitude; and σ'_0 : initial effective confining stress

- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 6:



Total damage for damage strain* caused by a series of irregular pulses until the end of pulse n: $D = \sum_{i=1}^{n} D_i = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{N_i}$ If D becomes 1.0 at the end of pulse n,

it is assumed that this damage strain * takes place in pulse n.

- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 7:



Then, we can find the damage strain at the end of pulse n at which the total damage $D = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{N_i}$ becomes 1.0.

- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 8:



By this procedure, "a given time history of irregular cyclic stresses causing a certain damage strain can be converted to "uniform cyclic stresses with an arbitrary combination of SR & N_c that develops the same damage strain".

- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 9:



Uniform cyclic stresses equivalent to "irregular working stresses before the start of pulse n" obtained by the cumulative damage concept.

Equivalent $\tau \sim \gamma$ behavior after have been subjected to "equivalent uniform cyclic stresses obtained by the cumulative damage concept"



- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 10:





- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 11:



- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 12:





- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 13:



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- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 14:

Typical example: dense Hokota sand





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- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 15:

 σ'_{mi} :

Undrained shear strength after cyclic undrained loading becomes significantly smaller as sand becomes looser, due to: 1) lower initial undrained shear strength;

- 2) larger damage strain by undrained CL; and
- 3) a larger drop rate for the same damage strain.



- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 16:





- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 17:





- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 18:







- Undrained strength during cyclic undrained loading for slip displacement analysis by Newmark-D method - 20:







Slip displacement by Newmark-D analysis of old Fujinuma dam, which collapsed by the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake





Very large ultimate slip displacement: -Slip continues after the moment of peak acceleration (t= 97.01 s) due to continuing deterioration in the undrained shear strength.



 Undrained stress – strain relation in the course of cyclic undrained loading modelled for residual deformation analysis by pseudo-static non-linear FEM - 1 :

Cyclic undrained torsional simple shear test on **dense** Toyoura sand applying 'seismic' random stresses at <u>a constant</u> <u>shear strain rate</u>









Complicated $\tau_{vh} - \gamma_{vh}$ relation !



Complicated $\tau_{vh} - \gamma_{vh}$ relation, but smooth strain-hardening hysteretic $\tau_{vh}/\sigma'_v - \gamma_{vh}$ relation:

- Yielding starts when τ_{vh}/σ'_v exceeds the previous maximum value in each direction.



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 Undrained stress – strain relation in the course of cyclic undrained loading modelled for residual deformation analysis by pseudo-static non-linear FEM - 1 :

Cyclic undrained torsional simple shear test on **loose** Toyoura sand applying 'seismic' random stresses at <u>a constant</u> <u>shear strain rate</u>









Complicated $\tau_{vh} - \gamma_{vh}$ relation !



Complicated $\tau_{vh} - \gamma_{vh}$ relation,

but smooth strain-hardening hysteretic $\tau_{vh}/\sigma'_v - \gamma_{vh}$ relation:

- Yielding starts when τ_{vh}/σ'_v exceeds the previous maximum value in each direction.
- The γ_{vh} value at the peak τ_{vh}/σ'_v state after having passed the yielding point (e.g. point h) can be determined only by the peak τ_{vh}/σ'_v value and the ML stress – strain relation starting from the origin (i.e., $o \rightarrow y1 \rightarrow F \rightarrow h$), not referring to previous cyclic loading histories.



0.5

0.4

0.3

0.2

0.1

0.0

-0.1

-0.2

-0.3



The γ_{vh} value at the peak τ_{vh}/σ'_v state after having passed the yielding point (e.g. point h) obtained by following the reloading $\tau_{vh} - \gamma_{vh}$ relation (e.g. f' \rightarrow y2 \rightarrow F \rightarrow h) is the same as the value obtained by following the monotonic loading $\tau_{vh} - \gamma_{vh}$ relation starting from the origin (e.g. $o \rightarrow y1 \rightarrow$ F \rightarrow h) while not referring to previous cyclic loading histories.





The time history of the γ_{vh} value at the peak τ_{vh}/σ'_v states after having passed the yielding point (e.g. the values at points f, h & j) can be obtained by following respective ML stress-strain relations starting from the origin, o, that have degraded by respective preceding cyclic undrained loading histories.

→ In a slope in which initial shear stresses are acting, most of the respective peak γ_{vh} value remains as the residual value upon unloading.





The time history of the residual deformation of a slope may be obtained by a series of pseudostatic non-linear FEM analyses incorporating gravity and seismic loads while using respective ML stress – strain relations starting from the origin.

Approximatedly, the maximum value of this deformation can be considered as the ultimate residual deformation caused by a given seismic loading history.





A series of pseudo-static FEM analysis of old Fujinuma dam, which collapsed by the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake



The largest deformation (at t= 100.14 s): -not by the peak acceleration (t= 97.01 s), but later after the stress-strain relation has deteriorated more.



A series of pseudo-static FEM analysis of old Fujinuma dam, which collapsed by the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake



The largest deformation (at t= 100.14 s): -not by the peak acceleration (t= 97.01 s), but later after the stress-strain relation has deteriorated more.

-This largest deformation is considered as the ultimate residual deformation.


Several important features of the drained & saturated-undrained stress-strain properties of soil in monotonic & cyclic loadings related to the seismic stability of earth-fill dam

Practical simplified seismic stability analysis needs appropriate balance among the methods chosen in the following items:

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 - **Conventional design load vs. Likely largest load in the future**
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Design seismic load at a given site:

Conventional design load:

- specified in many old seismic design codes
- defined as Level 1 design seismic load in new seismic design codes (introduced after the 1995 Great Kobe E.-Q.)

Likely largest seismic load during the lifetime of a given structure: - defined as Level 2 design seismic motion in new seismic design codes (introduced after the 1995 Great Kobe E.-Q.)



Japanese Society for Civil Engineers (1996) :

•Level 1 design seismic motion: It is a seismic motion with a high likelihood of occurring during the design lifetime of the concerned structure. It is required that, in principle, all new structures have sufficient seismic resistance to ensure "no damage" when subjected to this seismic motion.

•Level 2 design seismic motion: It is the strongest seismic motion thought likely to occur at the location of the concerned structure during its lifetime. It is required that the structure should not collapse, although damage that renders it unusable is acceptable if its functionality can be rapidly restored.

The relationship among "the design seismic load", "design shear strength of soil" and "stability analysis method (i.e., global Fs vs. residual deformation)" is complicated due to historical reasons.



Actual behavior during severe earthquakes

■ Well-compacted fill A: **Examples**: high rock fill dams modern highway embankments modern railway embankments earth-fill dams Poorly-compacted fill B: Examples: old soil structures before introduction of modern design and construction codes and methods residential embankments



Typical conventional seismic design of soil structure

Design seismic load $(\tau_w)_d$: <u>k_h= 0.15</u> (Level 1 seismic coefficient)

Design shear strength $(\tau_f)_d^*$: Drained shear strength when D_c by Standard

Proctor (1Ec) is equal to the required minimum value (e.g., 90 %)

 \rightarrow Required min. F_s by limit equilibrium stability analysis = 1.2, for example



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Several important factors that influence the drained &saturatedundrained stress-strain properties of soil when subjected to monotonic & cyclic loading histories related to the seismic stability analysis of soil structures, including earth-fill dams, were discussed. The following are the main conclusions:

1) Compacted soils exhibit significant strain-softening associated with shear banding, resulting in progressive failure in a slope.

2) As the thickness of shear band increases with D_{50} , the rate of strain-softening becomes slower with D_{50} , so the failure tends to become less progressive, making the slope more stable.

3) Although the effect of dry density on the drained peak shear strength is large, the effect on the undrained shear strength is much more significant.



4) The drained strength of compacted soil exhibits strong inherent anisotropy in plane strain compression. 5) The strength obtained by different stress-strain tests (i.e., triaxial and plane strain compression and direct shear) could be largely different due to the effects of different angles between the σ_1 direction and the bedding plane direction; different ratios of σ_2 to $\sigma_1 \& \sigma_3$; and different definition of friction angle.



6) For the limit equilibrium-based stability analysis of a slope under plane strain conditions, a practical simplified method that assumes the followings, yet takes into account the effects of compacted dry density and particle size, can be proposed:

a) Isotropic stress-strain properties exhibiting strain-softening of which the rate decreases with an increase in D_{50} .

b) Use of the peak & residual strengths determined by the conventional TC tests at δ = 90°,.

c) Use of the peak strength corresponding to somehow conservatively determined compacted dry density (i.e., slightly lower than the value that corresponds to the anticipated average of the actual values of D_c).

d) Progressive failure is not taken into account.



7) Under undrained monotonic loading conditions, loose & dense saturated soils exhibit the shear strength that is significantly lower and higher than the respective drained shear strengths.
8) The undrained shear strength decreases by preceding cyclic undrained loading. The effects of dry density on the damaged undrained shear strength are significant due to the following trends with an increase in the dry density:

a) the increase in the initial undrained shear strength;

b) the decrease in the damage strain by preceding cyclic undrained loading; and

c) the decrease in the degradation rate by damage strain.



9) For simplified stability analyses of a slope having saturated zones by "slip deformation by the Newmark method" ad "residual deformation by the pseudo-static non-linear FEM", the characteristic feature of undrained stress – strain properties described above can be modelled in a unified framework from the same results of a set of monotonic and cyclic loading lundrained stress – strain tests of saturated soil..



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTIONS